

Dredged at station 4,860 in the Japan Sea, in 122 fathoms, mud and stones, bottom temperature 34° 1 F. U. S. N. Mus. 210,800.

The species is named in honor of Prof. E. S. Morse of Salem, whose work on the brachiopods is well known. The most nearly related species is *Laqueus mariæ*, A. Adams, which is more ovate, with a narrower and more recurved beak, the genital glands differently distributed, and the mesial septum of the dorsal valve, long, high, and prominent; reaching to the anterior fourth of the valve, while in *L. morsei* it barely reaches the middle of the valve.

A white variety (*albida*) of *Waldheimia* (= *Eudesia*) *raphaelis* Dall, was also dredged, the specimens being more compressed laterally and with sharper anterior flexures than in the type. A dwarf form of the same species with all the characteristics of the adult, except that it measures 17 mm. long instead of 37, was dredged in Kagoshima Gulf. The normal adults of the species show little or no flexuosity anteriorly, until nearly full grown, but the dwarf referred to possessed them in perfection.

A NOTE ON *HELIX HORTENSIS*.

BY OLOF O. NYLANDER.

I have been much interested in your articles on *Helix hortensis* in America. When a small boy they were among my choicest play-things and I gathered large numbers of them together with *H. nemoralis* in south-eastern Sweden.

In 1899 among a lot of marine shells collected at Grand Manan, and given to me for identification were three land shells. One specimen had five narrow, dark brown bands on a light yellow ground, a common form of *Helix hortensis*; both were of larger size than any specimens in my collection from Sweden, Germany and England. One specimen is of a rich yellow color, comparing in every way with European specimens in my collection. The third specimen was a young shell, light yellow in color and like the plain-colored *Helix hortensis* of the Maine coast. Mrs. S. Page who collected the specimens, informed me that they were plentiful on the Island of Grand Manan, her native home. As there is so much

speculation relative to the origin and distribution of *Helix hortensis*, in America, I will state that in my opinion they were introduced by the early French settlers in Canada, at Gaspé and along the St. Lawrence River; and that their distribution only along the coast is due to the more favorable conditions. The long cold winters—sometimes commencing in September and lasting into the middle of May in Canada and Maine, are too severe and long for *Helix hortensis* to spread over the interior. Along the coast, and on the islands, the winters are not as long or as intensely cold as in the interior. I have gone over a very large part of northern Maine and a good part of New Brunswick and have never seen *H. hortensis*.

I have collected *Helix hortensis* at Hörte and Sherlotenlund on the south coast of Sweden within a few steps of the water edge of the Baltic Sea.

A NEW WEST INDIAN NITIDELLA.

BY WM. H. DALL.

During a recent visit to Cuba Mr. John B. Henderson, Jr., collected a few marine shells from the rocks along shore, between tides, at Ensenada de Cochinas, on the south side of the island. Among them was the following species which I have been unable to identify among the described forms of the genus.

Nitidella hendersoni n. sp.

Shell thin, fusiform, with an elongate, very acute spire, and about eight whorls; nucleus minute, white, smooth; subsequent whorls flattish with an appressed suture, pinkish near the nucleus, later becoming translucent with dark chestnut-brown lineolations, zigzags or dots, frequently with white, protractive, oblique flammulations at the suture of which the anterior margins are bordered with a dark chestnut line; also on the periphery is often a narrow articulated band, of white and brown spots; the surface is covered with a conspicuous greenish periostracum, which on the body whorl is elevated in axial lamellæ not close enough to give a velvety effect but separated by wider polished spaces; surface nearly smooth under the periostracum, polished, with faint indications of fine axial or revolving striæ; on the base there are numerous spiral grooves which